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(12) **United States Patent**
Pape

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(54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
DISTRIBUTING ARTICLES IN A STORAGE
COMPARTMENT**

(56) **References Cited**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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An apparatus and method for distributing articles made by series production is configured to deliver articles to selected storage positions in side-by-side rows of adjacent storage positions for stacked articles in a storage compartment. After selection of a storage position, a transport platform movably mounted on a horizontally movable carriage above the rows is driven to a location above the selected storage position with the platform moved between two possible positions for dispensing articles into the respective rows, an article conveyor on the platform is actuated to transport the article off the platform into the underlying storage position, where it is stacked on top of any previously stacked articles, and the platform is driven back to a start position to receive the next article. The procedure is repeated to distribute subsequent articles to selected storage positions in the storage area.

See application file for complete search history.

16 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets

